

# Marines Wounded In Fight in Miami Against Looters

Two Negroes Are Shot in First Disorder to Mark Relief and Reconstruction Work.

OFFICIAL DEATH  
TOLL NOW 157

Evacuation of Moore Haven Completed Despite Protests of Inhabitants.

## BY UNITED NEWS.

With the official death toll mounted to 157; with property damage remaining at approximately \$200,000,000 where estimated; with marines fighting alleged looters in Miami, and with Governor Martin commanding all persons to evacuate the Lake Okeechobee regions, the aftermath of the recent West Indian hurricane which devastated south Florida has assumed a more serious aspect than at any time since the storm.

Adjutant General Foster, of the Florida national guard, this afternoon announced that thus far official check-up of the dead in the Okeechobee district amounted to 315, with possibilities of more being later added. He pointed out that most of the dead had been drowned in the Moore Haven region, when Lake Okeechobee overflowed, covering miles of surrounding territory with more than eight feet of water.

## Evacuation Ordered.

Governor Martin has ordered all civilians to leave the Okeechobee district immediately because of the danger of disease, following the death of

hundreds of humans, and countless animals of all varieties. The ghastly task of recovering the dead is progressing rapidly in the Moore Haven and other Okeechobee sections in spite of the almost impenetrable morass there of combined deep water and floating debris.

Two marines and two negroes were shot this afternoon in Miami in a threatened race riot which followed when the marines claim they caught two negroes looting a store in the negro section of the city—a section from which most of the male negroes have been conscripted for labor.

Two companies of troops, 60 police with riot guns, and 25 deputy sheriffs were rushed to the scene. Although no riot actually occurred, officials claim one might have risen had it not been for the prompt arrival of the forces.

## Marines Wounded.

When the negroes returned the fire of the marines, two marines, J. D. Allen and E. L. Melbourne, were wounded. Allen in the left leg and right arm and Melbourne in the right hip. Both marines were placed under arrest at a hospital. Twenty armed negroes were found in the vicinity of the shooting, and were also arrested. This is the first disorder which has marred the relief and reconstruction work in the storm district.

## WASHINGTON PROBES LABOR CONSCRIPTION.

(By Leased Wire to The Constitution and The Chicago Tribune.)  
Washington, September 25.—Investigation of reports that sailors and marines on duty in Miami, Fla., are conscripting idle negroes to clear away the debris of last Saturday's hurricane, was undertaken by the navy department today. No authority for such a drastic step exists in the absence of a declaration of martial law, it was said, and a complete report of the activities of the elements of sailors and marines in Miami has been ordered from the commandant of the seventh naval district in Key West, Fla.

High-ranking officials of the department, who declined to be quoted pending receipt of the commandant's report, declared that although the marines and sailors are at the disposal of state and local authorities for the preservation of life and the protection of property, they have no right to draft laborers, except under specific

orders from Washington or in accordance with martial law regulations issued by a competent military authority.

No such orders have been issued from Washington, nor will they be, it was asserted in the navy department; and so far as is known here no military authority has directed the use of force to secure workmen. The sailors and men have been detailed under the command of the national guard officer in charge at Miami, it was pointed out, but their officers are aware, or should be, it was said in the navy department, that they cannot be expected to enforce a conscription order without specific authority from Washington.

## CASUALTY INCREASE SEEN BY McNEELY.

Washington, September 24.—(AP)—Casualties in the Miami storm area "may greatly exceed those already announced," Captain McNeely, commander of the Key West naval station, today advised the navy department.

The captain said that from all available information it appears that "the public reports of the Miami disaster are too optimistic and it is apparent that the casualty may greatly exceed those already announced."

He also told of an eyewitness report received at Key West of the shooting and burning of three negroes by a mob near Miami after the negroes had been captured while looting the dead. His message in part read:

"An eyewitness report says that last night on the Tamiami Isle about ten miles from the heart of Miami three negroes were shot to death and then burned. Understood that they had attempted to remove rings from a dead woman while her children lay dead beside her, and failing in this, had shot her fingers from her hand. One of the three negroes was found with a finger in his pocket. The mob then took charge."

"On Monday marines from Key West put an end to looting at Miami Beach just north of the Alliston hotel."

## LYNCH DESPITE DEATHS

ALLEGED COLORED LOOTERS IN FLORIDA SECTION DEVASTATED BY TORNADO HUNG WITHOUT TRIAL—NO WHITES HUNG—COLORED MEN CONSCRIPTED FOR ROUGH WORK, WHITES ASKED TO VOLUNTEER—SOME COLORED KILLED

Miami, Fla., Sept. 22.—With the hurricane which wrecked this city and all towns in the vicinity diverted to Pensacola and Mobile, the southeastern coast of Florida today prepared to combat a fresh menace—epidemic.

Thirty-one cases of typhoid have already been reported from Fort Lauderdale, owing to the pollution of the water supply.

As a warning to all looters, whose work has added to the horrors of the storm area, two negroes discovered at Hialeah cutting rings from corpses' hands were hanged to electric light poles and their bodies riddled with bullets.

More than 70 looter suspect have been arrested.

## Colored Conscripted

Miami, Fla., Sept. 21, 1926.—Arbitrary surveys and rechecks made today in the storm devastated southeastern coast of Florida showed 365 known dead; 1100 injured, probably 500 seriously, in hospitals, and property loss of approximately \$165,000,000.

Colored men were conscripted today for cleaning up the city outside the business district, where many streets still are blocked by tangled wreckage. In addition, volunteer workers were called for.

## Estimates

As compiled by W. H. Combs, in charge of the bureau of missing persons here, Col. L. S. Lowry, Jr., leader in the rescue work at Moorhaven; The Associated Press, and the Miami Daily News, the deaths by cities and towns were as follows:

Moorhaven 126, Miami and immediate vicinity 109; Hollywood and immediate vicinity, 54; Hialeah, 22; Fort Lauderdale, 19; Dania, 11; Fulford, 8; Seaboard Park, 7; Ingleside, Pompano, 2.

Property loss was given as follows: Miami Beach, Coral Gables and Coconut Grove, \$100,000,000, estimated by Miami Chamber of Commerce. Hialeah, \$15,000,000, estimated by Mayor Grethen. Hollywood and Dania, \$25,000,000, estimated by J. W. Young. Fort Lauderdale, \$25,000,000 to \$35,000,000, estimated by city officials.

## Colored Dead

Some of the colored dead are Ralph Bain, Drucilla Berren at Hialeah, Grace E. Best, "Shorty," George, Bill Green, 26, Harper, Neal, Weldon Robinson, John Sutherland, 18 and Esther Ward.

Riots-1926

Houston.

# Dr. Harten Tells Of Move To Petition President To Release Houston Martyrs

NEWARK, N. J., Aug. 5.—Rev. Dr. T. S. Harten, pastor of the Holy Trinity Baptist Church in Brooklyn, an ardent champion of the rights of the race in America, and organizer of the National Equal Rights League, addressed a large mass meeting here at the Hopewell Baptist Church, last Thursday evening, and told of the movement that he is heading to circulate a nation-wide petition to present to President Coolidge during the Sesqui-Centennial celebration, asking him to free the remaining soldiers of the Twenty-fourth Infantry now serving prison terms at Leavenworth. The meeting opened the campaign in New Jersey on the first lap of Dr. Harten to carry the movement throughout the country. The meeting was an enthusiastic one, and Dr. Harten received a warm ovation from the large audience. His address which was remarkable for its earnestness and eloquence, was frequently interrupted by applause.

Rev. H. Borden, pastor of the church, made the opening address and praised the work of Dr. Harten in starting the national drive to arouse interest on behalf of the Houston martyrs. He pledged his support and that of his members to the movement, and said that the church must line up with every movement that will make for the betterment of the race. Several inspiring hymns were sung by the choir.

Dr. Harten began his address by saying that the movement on behalf of the colored soldiers was launched as a part of the Sesqui-Centennial program of the National Equal Rights League on behalf of the part that the colored soldiers played in American Independence.

"They are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the signing of The Declaration of Independence" said Dr. Harten. "150 years ago," he said, "America broke from the thralldom of Great Britain." "One thing that ought to be remembered," said Dr. Harten, is "that the first blood to make this celebration possible came from a Negro."

Dr. Harten told of the recent delegation composed of members of the National Equal Rights League that called on President Coolidge with a petition signed by 25,000 people, protesting against the segregation and discrimination prevailing in Washington. He said that the

son City, Missouri, as assistant registrar at Lincoln University of Missouri. During her vacation Miss Edmondson visited friends in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut and New Jersey. While in Pittsburgh she visited Miss Ruth Bank

## Petition Asks Release of "Houston Martyrs"

By CLEVELAND G. ALLEN.

NEWARK, July 26.—The Rev. Dr. T. S. Harten, pastor of the Holy Trinity Baptist Church in Brooklyn, an ardent champion of the rights of the race in America and organizer of the National Equal Rights League, addressed a large mass meeting here at the Hopewell Baptist Church Thursday evening and told of the movement that he is heading to circulate a nation-wide petition to present to President Coolidge during the Sesqui-Centennial celebration, asking him to free the remaining soldiers of the 24th Infantry now serving prison terms in Leavenworth.

The meeting opened the campaign in New Jersey on the first lap of Dr. Harten to carry the movement throughout the country. Rev. H. Borden, pastor of the church, made the opening address and praised the work of Dr. Harten in starting the national drive to arouse interest on behalf of the Houston martyrs.

Miss Georgine R. Pearce, Home and School Visitor of the Urban League of Pittsburgh, returns home this week from New York City, where she spent six weeks of intensive study at the New York School of Social Work.

Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Scott of E. Wylie avenue left here Sunday on touring trips, for Richmond, Va., accompanying them on their trip being their daughter, Mrs. Floyd Clifford and two children, and son, Mr. Bernard Scott.

Dr. Virginia M. Alexander of Philadelphia and Kansas, who is the sister of Attorney Pace Alexander of Philadelphia and niece of Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Pace of Pittsburgh, with her friend, Miss Marguerite Rhodes, while en route to Philadelphia last week had a brief stay here as the guests of relatives and Dr. Gwendolyn Browne.

Mrs. Charles C. Cowan of Winnipeg, Manitoba, is visiting her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Cowan, of 622 Morgan street.

After a brief vacation, Miss Albertina Edmondson of Jacksonville, Florida, has just returned to Jeffer-

Riots - 1926

Illinois

## CHICAGO RIOT

*Afternoon*  
*6-8-26*  
*Baltimore Md.*  
CHICAGO.—(ANP)—Homes of Negroes in the Maxwell street district on the west side of Chicago were the objects of attacks by white residents Wednesday night. Police say that the whites were angered when Negroes encroached beyond a line which the whites had marked among themselves was far enough for the colored citizens to go.

An automobile belonging to a colored man, Robert Woodman, was destroyed, and flaming rag-wrapped bricks were thrown through the windows of the home of George Williams, a blind veteran of the World War.

One girl was seriously hurt. Firemen extinguished the flames and police restored order, guards being placed around several houses.



Riots-1926

New Jersey

BRUNSWICK HOME ST.  
APRIL 30, 1926

### THE CARTERET RIOT

The police of Passaic have been called brutal and declared inhuman because they have not permitted the textile strikers to gather in crowds and in mobs but that policy prevented anything bordering on that shameful and disgraceful uprising recently in Carteret.

A mob loses all control of itself and cannot be handled with ease, if at all, by the authorities. For that reason, people should not be allowed to mobilize in times of trouble as in the Passaic strike district, or in Carteret after a white man had been killed by a negro. If negligence is to be charged to the police of Carteret for the uprising of last Monday, it is in their failure to disperse the crowds which are said to have gathered on the afternoon and night before, planning revenge upon a class when an individual alone was responsible for the murder. The Carteret police probably did all they could possibly do to prevent the burning of the First Baptist Negro church but their efforts were fruitless for they were too late. The mob had gathered and was beyond control.

It is said there was no sensible person in that unruly crowd, composed largely of young men robbed of their reason through indulgence in poisonous liquor. Of course there wasn't and the good people of Carteret regret that unwarranted indulgence of criminalities such as in times past were expected to occur only in the Southern states. No such affront to civilization has occurred in the Passaic strike zone but there might have been if the police of that district had not sensed the danger of mobs and had been alert.

The crime of burning the church of one race and of driving from their homes several hundred negro families should not go unpunished. With the Prosecutor of the county rests the responsibility to hunt down the criminals and bring them to trial. It was a Herren, Illinois, example of lawlessness.

## POLICE AND TROOPS PROTECT WORKERS

Landing Guarded to Prevent Second Clash Between Whites and Negroes

BEVERLY, N. J., June 28.—(AP)—Police and state troops guarded the landing of 125 southern white men returning to their homes from work at a canning factory at Cornwell, Pa., after a race riot that involved nearly 200 negroes and white last night.

Beaten with a baseball bat and stoned by a mob, William Bryan, of Macon, Ga., was reported tonight to be in a critical condition from his injuries.

Robert Fisher, alleged leader of the band of negroes, who is charged with the assault upon Bryan, is being held under \$500 bail, and fourteen others, eleven of them negroes, were held under \$200 bail each.

A state trooper stationed here, is in constant communication with details of troopers in nearby cities, which were called out last night to aid in ending the riot, in case they are again needed.

The southern whites came to this section recently to work for a fruit packing concern, and many of them established their homes here.

Every morning and night when a large yacht carrying the workers left the steamboat wharf, they say they had to listen to shouts of "white trash" and Georgia crackers.

## Jersey Whites and Negroes Clash Sunday

Beverly, N. J.—White men here objected to the presence of a number of colored visitors from Cornwell, Pa., just across the Delaware River, and in the clash that resulted, Jesse Bryan, sustained injuries which sent him to the Mount Holly Hospital. He was the only one hurt.

As a result of the rioting, Sunday saw Beverly practically under martial law, as forty state troopers controlled the streets in automobiles, on motorcycles and on foot.

Three whites, including Bryan, were arrested and held in \$500 bail, and seven Negroes were given the same treatment.

NEWARK NEWS  
APRIL 29, 1926

## Denies Arming of Negroes at Plant

Superintendent at Carteret Tells Officials Reports Are False

Says Only Six Men Quit

Special to the NEWARK NEWS.

CARTERET, April 29.—Persistent reports that colored men were armed yesterday at the Liebig Works of the American Agricultural Chemical Company here, and that a quantity of ammunition was stored at the plant, caused a conference of municipal and county officials last night at the Borough Hall.

Fred L. Woods, the superintendent, in denying the report said that weapons had been taken at the outbreak of the trouble even from the usual guard or two at the plant, and tear bombs given the guards in place of them.

The concern was the first employer of colored labor in Carteret four years ago. About 100 colored men work there, and as many whites. Mr. Woods said the colored men were steady workers, and that only six of them quit their jobs during the week's disturbances over the murder of Johnnie Carroll, boxer, who was buried yesterday. The colored men live in quarters provided for them at the plant.

NEW YORK CITY TIMES  
MAY 5, 1926

Carteret Returns to Peace.

Either because the police of Carteret, over in New Jersey, have decided to protect its black inhabitants as well as its white ones, or because the white residents have decided to do no more rioting, the negroes recently driven out of that town have returned to their homes and unmolested have returned to work.

The cause of the trouble last week is said to have been due to no particular race animosity, but simply to the fact that the negroes had been imported by the local employers of several sorts to take at lower wage rates the places of white workmen. Why, if that was the case, a negro church had to be burned and the negroes themselves hunted out of town, one at least can pretend not to understand. It certainly was illogical action, and the reverse of brave.

STATEN ISLAND N. Y. ADVAR.  
APRIL 29, 1926

## OUTBREAK OF MOB FEARED IF BLACK REFUGEES RETURN

Thirty Negro Workers Taken From Jungle To Linoleumville, Staten Island

PRIEST ASKS PEACE

Carteret Black Employees To Be Replaced By Whites After Conference

Fear of mob vengeance if negroes, who fled in the outbreaks that followed the murder of Johnny Carroll, pugilist, return to Carteret is voiced today.

Racial hatred, which flared to blazing heat following the burial of Carroll, is voiced, in threats by chums of the slain boxer, the assertion of the Rev. George Reed, Negro pastor who took refuge in Elizabeth, that he expects to come back under police protection, has added to the tense feeling. Other negroes, it is said are planning to return within the next few days.

Friends of the murdered man heard the Rev. John R. O'Connor, who officiated at the requiem mass at St. Joseph's Catholic church, implore:

"Let nothing be done to break the sacred laws of God or the sacred laws of the land."

The jungle, Carteret's negro settlement, is deserted. About thirty negro workers at Carteret plants were taken to Linoleumville, Staten Island, after a conference between officials of the plants and Chief of Police Harrington. They will be replaced by white workers.

Harrington said John Durcrist, the negro held for the murder of Carroll, will be indicted Friday by the Grand Jury.

Townpeople attribute the troubles to bad feeling growing out of the importation of negro workers in fertilizing plants for less wages than received by white laborers.

NEW YORK CITY HERALD  
MAY 2 1926

Moore Orders Race Riots

At Carteret Investigated

ATLANTIC CITY, May 1.—Governor A. Harry Moore, spending a brief vacation here, to-day ordered Prosecutor Toolan, of Middlesex County, to investigate the recent race riots at Carteret.

Orders for the inquiry followed receipt of a telegram by the Governor from the American Negro Labor Conference requesting an immediate investigation. Governor Moore had already asked for the investigation when he received the telegram.

"If any evidence of lawlessness develops, immediate and forceful steps will be taken to punish the offenders," he said.



## JERSEY RACE TROUBLE

The Racial problem in the South has lost much of its seriousness. In cities and rural districts the two races live peacefully, outbreaks rarely occurring.

Not so, however, in the North, where friction is constantly developing. It is not so long ago that we heard of grave matters. A few weeks ago the city council in Indianapolis passed a segregation law providing against the invasion of white neighborhoods by negroes and vice versa, though of course it is an exceptional case when a white family moves into a district tenanted by colored.

Now we have a very violent outbreak of racial feeling in Carteret, N. J. John Carroll, a local pugilist, and a companion were attacked by a group of six negroes. Carroll was killed and his companion was wounded.

The tragedy threw the white population of Carteret into wild confusion and indignation. War was immediately declared against the negroes of the community, who are probably in a very large minority, and no distinction was made between the innocent and the guilty. A mob put the torch to a negro church and burned it to the ground. The pastor of the church was caught on the street, badly beaten and ordered to leave town. One hundred men, women and children were evicted from their homes in the negro district and sent fleeing in terror.

Of course in a day or two the excitement will die out. Reason will resume its sway. Order will be restored. The Government of New Jersey, a State densely populated by whites, cannot afford to permit this racial rioting to go on.

But we hope the fact that this reign of terror, with the negro as the helpless victim, has happened at their very doors will have an effect on those newspapers and periodicals in the East who are so prone to denounce the South as the oppressor of the colored man. They ought to do some denouncing at home.

—New Orleans States.

## Labor Rioting in New Jersey

The race question in the United States has been definitely reduced to two phases, with other phases grouped about them. The like problem has developed in British South Africa, the West Indies and Australia. Wherever the English people come in contact with off-color peoples they are taking more and more the attitude that they are the superior people and that they can conquer and take the lands and control and regulate the labor of the subject people without their consent. The policy has come fixed and is causing more or less trouble and will continue to do so as the policy is developed and extended. No man has a right to rule another without his consent and no man has the right to rob another man of his possessions and his labor even with his consent, on the principle of the law that if it can be done with the one it may be done with the other.

The wholesale race rioting in St. Louis and Chicago of late years was caused primarily by economic pressure of black labor on white labor, the whites being organized for the most part in labor unions while the blacks were organized if at all but indifferently.

The race rioting in the South, where the rioting agony began, was originally due to political causes. The Afro-American was expected to do much of the rough work and some of the skilled work. The native white seldom even now takes kindly to either sort of work. But with the coming of Northern working men into the South the trade union also came and the whites began with barring the blacks from the skilled work and then from the rough work, as far as possible. They now want to hog all sorts of work, and do it where they have enough of their own sort to do any given job. Only when they have to, do they allow themselves to work along side of off-color people or non-union members. Afro-Americans have not learned to organize in their peculiar line of work and fight to hold their work, and until they learn to do so they will be driven from pillow to post by the organized white worker, who has no more conscience, as they show in all of their strikes, than a machine.

"You may starve, for what we care so we get ours," is the organized watchword of organized white labor, and we need to organize with a like slogan. The question of bread and meat is simply a question of life and death. Our masses do not understand

this fact, and they may come to do so when it is too late to save themselves.

There are little manufacturing towns all over New Jersey and ever since the Northern movement of dissatisfied Afro-Americans began, some of them have drifted into one or other of these places. Opposition of foreign workers, and most of them are foreign, develops at once, and continues to fester, until there is an outbreak more or less serious. One such outbreak took place at a little town called Carteret in New Jersey in the week ending May 1. The riot started by a collision between three colored and two white persons, who met in the neighborhood of their work places. Who started the row? A popular fellow of the pugilist class and his friend got the worst of the mix-up, the former getting stabbed to death. What then? The town went daft and ran out the 100 colored families and burned their Baptist church. Six colored persons were arrested at this writing, but none of the white rioters have been. The police may not do any arresting, but the grand jury may do some indicting, for New Jersey justice has a long arm and is relentless. Some of the 100 who were run out threaten to return to Carteret, but unless they intend to shoot to kill those who shoot to kill them they had better remain away from the place. It is useless to reason with a mob or expect it to be reasonable; it will listen only to the same kind of argument it uses.

## WHAT BREEDS RACE RIOTS.

As was stated in The Age last week, because of the stabbing to death of a white pugilist by a Negro, seven hundred whites raided the Negro section of Carteret, N. J., and set fire to the First Baptist Church, burning it to the ground. The mob then routed colored families from their homes and drove them from the town, beating and assaulting individual Negroes wherever they were found. The latest word from the place described Carteret as quiet, after an attendance of one thousand at the funeral of the white pugilist on Thursday.

While the immediate cause of the conflict between the two races was ascribed to an altercation between two groups, composed of whites and blacks respectively, the real reasons for such a violent outbreak lie further back. Many of the townspeople

leged that bad feeling had been growing since Negroes had been imported to work in fertilizer factories for less wages than the white laborers received. Others, including the pastor of the colored church, were inclined to blame politics for the trouble, the Negroes often holding the balance of power and being the deciding element in the Republican party.

Another source of constant irritation was that the laborers in the fertilizer plants were alleged to be offensive in public conveyances on their way to and from work, because of the fact that they traveled in the same clothes that they worked in, which retained the odors connected with their occupation. Of course, this could have been avoided by the use of other clothes for traveling and the provision of facilities for changing and washing at the various plants. It should have been incumbent for the employers to provide such facilities and insist upon such changes in order to avoid giving cause for offence to other travelers.

Apparently the relations between the two races in Carteret were far from amicable, largely because of the fact that the Negroes were the objects of industrial exploitation. The causes for this racial friction were principally economic and it may be partly political. Perhaps the most irritating cause of friction was the contact with the offensive apparel of the workers on the cars. A similar cause was assigned for the racial friction that preceded the riots in Chicago, in the use of public vehicles by colored slaughter house workers, in their working clothes.

All of the underlying causes of such racial conflicts as those at East St. Louis, Chicago and now at Carteret, may be avoidable and removable. But to apply the proper corrective methods will require intensive study of the present conditions and the co-operation of both races. The efforts of employers as well as the employed, organized labor and the local authorities, welfare workers of both races will all be needed to straighten out the situation.

Remove the causes for local friction, whether they are economic, political or otherwise, and such outbreaks as this one at Carteret will cease to occur.

# N. A. A. C. P. ASKS PROTECTION FOR N. J. FAMILIES FROM WHITE MOB

NEW YORK NEWS  
MAY 11 1926

## Race Hated in North.

New Jersey's flare-up between whites and blacks proves that race hatred may not be confined to a section. In the east and the north whites and negroes frequently clash just as they have done in the south. The only difference lies in the degree of intensity marking the demonstrations, and it is not observed that the south always goes farther in this direction than other sections. That this is true is being generally accepted in the north, where the people are beginning to open their eyes to the real facts. Evidence of this is found in a fair and impartial discussion in a recent issue of the Sioux City (Iowa) Journal of the riot in New Jersey. That paper, which speaks with an understanding seldom seen in the north, says:

New Jersey and other eastern or northern states would have fewer race riots and less race hatred if they learned how to treat negroes. There are no communities in the south where deserving colored people cannot succeed. There is a close bond of affection between whites and negroes in the south as both races thoroughly realize. At the same time—and for the most part by common consent—there is in the south a line of separation, each recognizing the differences between the two races and conducting themselves accordingly. Under normal conditions southern whites greatly prefer negroes as laborers. White servants are rare in the south. Negroes are more satisfactory because they understand what is demanded of them.

The recognized differences in the races, however, do not interrupt nor interfere with the feeling held for each other. The southern white employer wants certain definite service and recognition of inviolable limits. The southern negro gives these. After that the two live in better harmony than can be found anywhere else. Joe Bailey, United States senator from Texas many years ago, said the east and north had foolishly attempted to tell the south how to solve its race problem. He thought the south knew the question better than any other section could know it for the simple reason that it had lived with it for generations and was thoroughly familiar with every angle it presented.

As a matter of fact there is not so much race hatred in the south as in the east and north. The whites and the negroes of the south know each other well. They also understand each other and to better advantage than may be claimed elsewhere. Under normal conditions in the south there is no hatred between whites and negroes. Negroes who have gone north in late years discovered their grief and loss that the best friends the

had after all were the southerners who knew them well enough to sympathize with them

ALBANY N. Y. KNICKER BOOZ  
APRIL 29, 1926

## THE NEGRO IN TRANSITION.

At Carteret, N. J., the other day there befell a recurrence of one of those boil-overs of racial animosity arising out of the many cross-currents that move whenever the white and the black, the white and the red or the red and the black are thrown together in competition whether it be industrial, agricultural or occupational in the military sense of the term. Although the negro has been admitted to citizenship there are large areas of the country where he is in fact deprived of the full right of suffrage, and even in advanced New Jersey he may be ordered out of town in his hundreds as a result of a racial outbreak. Of course that is color discrimination and, of course, it is strictly unconstitutional. We have advanced a long way in the readjustments incidental to the conditions which began immediately after the Civil war, but we still have a long way to go.

The negro still is in transition and his problems are being made acute rather than otherwise by the industrial shifts that are taking place throughout the country. Heavy migrations to the north have resulted from inimical conditions existing in some southern areas. As a result the negro has been brought into direct competition with white workmen of the north and great areas of some of the cities of the middle west are given over to negro populations. Both in the north and the south the resultant problems will be worked out only in sympathy, kindness and high purposefulness. Violence should be avoided and antagonisms eliminated. Those who are responsible for the transplanting of negro populations should make it their business to carry on after the initial movement has taken place, with a view toward the necessary adjustments. Only more trouble can come out of such a condition as that which has been allowed at Carteret, N. J. Dodging the question will not help, either. The negro should be helped through his transition period which, if it seems protracted, is being protracted still further by mishandling.

The French franc is earnestly seeking the irreducible minimum.

NEW YORK.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 63 Fifth avenue, announced that following riotous attacks on the colored people of Carteret, N. J., and the burning of the local Baptist church, the Association's Director of Publicity, Herbert J. Seligmann, had proceeded at once to the scene of the trouble, had visited Mayor Mulvihill and demanded full police protection for the colored citizens of the town. In addition the N. A. A. C. P. twice telegraphed Governor A. Harry Moore of New Jersey, urging military protection if necessary for the colored people.

Mr. Seligmann's report on the Carteret trouble is as follows:

"Early Sunday morning, April 25, in a street fight between colored and white men, John Carroll, a boxer, well-known locally, was stabbed to death on the streets of Carteret. That night a mob formed, determined to 'run the Negroes out of town,' attacked the First Baptist church during services, routing the worshippers and burning the church to the ground. Upwards of 100 colored people were driven out of Carteret, and of those who remained many stayed all night in the Armour and Liebig fertilizer plants where they were employed or barricaded themselves in their homes.

"On April 27, the town was quiet although threats of violence against Negroes were made in connection with the funeral of the prizefighter, Carroll, on the following day which fortunately, however, passed off without incident. Mayor Mulvihill assured me that the entire police force would be

used to protect colored citizens of Carteret.

"The Rev. George H. Reed, pastor of the church which burned, publicly charged that the riot was due to political animosity, colored votes having helped elect the present Mayor, there being about 600 Negroes in Carteret and the Mayor having won by about 150 votes. Rev. Reed charged that bootlegging and home-brew activities went on openly in the town and contributed to the trouble. This charge was corroborated by other people."

The N. A. A. C. P. also announced that Rev. Louis Berry of Newark had volunteered to lead a delegation of colored people to call upon Governor Moore and ask protection for the colored people of Carteret. Rev. Reed has announced that he will lead the exiled colored people back to their homes and will rebuild the destroyed church.

In the telegrams to Governor Moore, the N. A. A. C. P. urged arrest of those responsible for the riotous attack on colored people and the burning of the church. To date no white people have been arrested. Three colored men, alleged to have implicated in the stabbing of the white prizefighter and his companion, are in custody in the Brunswick County Jail.

NEW YORK TIMES

APRIL 23, 1926

## RACE RIOT IN NEW JERSEY.

It sounds like a story from the South to read that a mob of white men in New Jersey burned a Negro church and drove a hundred colored men, women and children, most of whom had committed no offense, from the town and warned them not to return. According to the news dispatches the affair originated in the ill feeling created by so many colored men obtaining employment in the factories in the Carteret section of Middlesex County.

That is no crime in this State or country, where men possess equal rights under the law, regardless of color or creed. There is evidently a weakness on the part of the police authorities when a mob can go to such lengths; and the offense is by no means lessened by the apology that "none of the colored people met with any violence, except some of the men who refused to obey orders and were struck lightly with clubs."

Quite naturally the Negroes, who had committed no crime, objected to being driven from their homes by the mob of white men. There should be a thorough probing made of the affair and the persons who were responsible for the outrage indicted and brought to trial.



Riots - 1926

New Jersey

## AMERICAN NEGRO LABOR CONGRESS' STATEMENT OF CARTERET OUTRAGE

The following statement was given to The DAILY WORKER by the American Negro Labor Congress on the outrageous attack upon the Negro settlement at Carteret, N. J., news of which was carried in yesterday's edition. The Statement follows:

The American Negro Labor Congress is not at all surprised by the outrages at Carteret, N. J. In truth, the forward-looking men and women of the Negro race who participated in the organization of the American Negro Labor Congress were fully aroused to the fact that many points in America were fast becoming hot-beds of racial animosity and racial prejudice.

### Agents of Capital.

The American Negro Labor Congress knows that it has been the set policy of agents of the capitalist class to breed discord and hatred between black and white workers thruout this country. So long as this policy is successfully carried out there will be no solidarity of labor interest between Negro and white workers in America.

Realizing this, the negro workers who have organized the American Negro Labor Congress were certain from the beginning that a most important feature of their work would be to offset the terrible influence of the antagonisms that money power is cultivating in this country between races and groups.

### Seeds of Hatred.

The unfortunate disaster of Carteret is but evidence of how deeply the seeds of capitalistic hatreds have been sown and how readily they will spring up and bear fruit. This affair in New Jersey is a direct challenge to the up-standing, forward-looking workers not only black and white, but of all nationalities also, to get together to close

ranks, not simply to defend themselves as to wages and hours alone, but also to strike back at this insidious warfare that is being waged against the working class. Today they are pitting the American-born worker against the foreign-born worker and the white worker against the black worker. What will tomorrow bring?

### Demand Investigation.

The American Labor Congress has the bitterest condemnation for those who instigated this latest outrage and also for those who blindly participated in it. We take this opportunity to point out that no amount of inter-racial work, unless it is inter-racial endeavor among black and white workers themselves will do anything to better race relations under the present system. We demand that the respon-

sible authorities make a full and thorough investigation of the affair at Carteret, N. J.

American Negro Labor Congress,

Lovett-Forte-Whiteman,

General Secretary.

Carteret  
Returns  
to Peace.

Either because the police of Carteret, over in New Jersey, have decided to protect its black inhabitants as well as its white ones, because the white residents have decided to do no more rioting, the negroes recently driven out of that town have returned to their homes and have returned to work.

The cause of the trouble last week is said to have been due to no particular race animosity, but simply to the fact that the negroes have been imported by the local employer of several sorts to take at lower wage rates the places of white workmen. Why, if that was the case, a negro church had to be burned and the negroes themselves hunted out of town, one at least can pretend not to understand. It certainly was illogical action, and the reverse of brave.

## Admits Negro Attack Story, Bogus

CAMDEN, N. J., April 27.—By The Negro Associated Press)—William Denny, 20 years old and white, driver of a bakery wagon, admitted to county detectives Tuesday that his story of being held up and beaten by two colored men at Delair, a suburb, was a fake. Denny, who lives in a nearby village, said he framed the hold-up story to cover up a shortage in his collections.

Denny was found lying under his automobile truck on River Road near Mohican Lane shortly after midnight Tuesday morning. He said that two colored men attacked and robbed him as he was making an adjustment to his motor.

The confession of Denny makes the fourth bakery-wagon driver who has confessed to fake holdups during the past month. And the bandits were colored. Denny is being held by the police and is now in the county jail.

## 100 PEOPLE FORCED TO FLEE TOWN

CARTERET, N. J., April 29.—Driven from their homes as the glare of leaping flames turned their church to the one place where they can find solace and strength to carry the cross of oppression, more than 100 men, women and children were forced to flee the town, following the murder of a white man and the stabbing of another Sunday, following a street brawl.

The mob, in which many members were masked with handkerchiefs and armed with baseball bats and clubs, drove the closely herded group of residents as far as the border line of the adjoining town of Woodbridge, where they told them "to go and not come back."

### Prizefighter Victim

According to information received, the man killed was a prizefighter with a rather notorious reputation. It is alleged that he and companions had made insulting remarks to colored girls of the town and defied race citizens to do anything. Sunday, as this man and a companion were passing a group of race youths, an argument started. One of the youths killed Carroll, the prizefighter, and his companion were rendered hors de combat.

Six youths have been arrested. Robert Duceast, 24, is charged with murder, pending investigation, and the others are held as material witnesses.

### Firemen Use Water

The chief of police arrived with a dozen policemen soon after the enraged mobbists had set fire to the church, and ordered them to disperse. When they failed to do so, he ordered firemen to turn streams of water on them. Fleeing before

the water, the rioters swept down upon the colored section.

Banging on locked doors and breaking into some homes, they ordered the occupants to "get the h—l out of town." A few protested, but were subdued by rough use of clubs.

W YORK CITY SUN

APRIL 27, 1926

## NEGRO SCHOOL IN JERSEY TOWN BURNED DOWN

Structure at Fair Haven Is  
Destroyed by Fire of  
Incendiary Origin.

### RACE FEELING IS SPREADING

Pastor of Church Fired Yesterday  
Defies Carteret Mob and Says  
He Will Return.

RED BANK, N. J., April 27 (United Press).—Race hatred, spreading from Carteret to other central New Jersey towns, suddenly burst forth near here to-day when the Fair Haven Public School, attended only by negroes, was destroyed by fire of incendiary origin.

Despite the efforts of volunteer firemen to check the blaze, the one story structure burned to the ground. There were no children in it at the time.

Fire Chief Davison said there were unmistakable evidences of arson. The police immediately began an investigation.

With the entire police force of Carteret, N. J., on duty to prevent any further outbreak of race war between the negroes and the whites of the town, the Rev. George H. Reed, pastor of the negro Baptist church which was burned in the first flare up of racial hatred, served notice to-day that he will return and bring with him members of his congregation and others driven out.

Mr. Reed was found in Elizabeth, where he had fled. He announced that he would return after to-morrow, when the funeral of John Carroll, the local pugilist whose murder led directly to the mob action yesterday, will be held. He also denounced Car-

teret as a lawless town and charged that the police made no effort to break up the liquor traffic there.

### Negroes in Tent Camps.

Some of the negroes driven out by the mob which fired the church, have formed tent colonies outside the town. The largest colony is near the two fertilizer plants of Armour & Co., where most of the negroes are employed. The colored men and women are said to trust in the guards of the companies for protection.

Estimates as to the number of negroes driven out and the number still remaining vary. According to one version, 100 were chased from the community. Mr. Reed said to-day that there are between 700 and 800 negroes in Carteret. Those still remaining are being kept off the streets by the police.

"I'm going back to Carteret after the funeral of Mr. Carroll," the negro preacher said to-day in Elizabeth. "I'm going to rebuild that church and I'm going to bring all my negro members with me."

### Calls Town "Lawless."

"Carteret is a lawless town. Liquor is freely made and sold, and no effort is made by the police to break it up."

"Near my home I could point out at least five places where liquor is made by white people. Anyone passing through Carteret could smell it. The only time raids were ever conducted, the Federal authorities did it. I can't recall that the Carteret police conducted one raid."

"This outbreak is not the result of the murder. The people of Carteret are only hiding behind that. I don't know the man who killed Carroll nor does any one connected with my church know him. He only came to Carteret a few weeks ago, was not even employed there, committed this deed, and we have to suffer."

"The political situation in Carteret is rotten. Every year at election time the negroes are molested. If any get into any kind of trouble they are first beaten up by the police and then arrested. From what I can learn, the negroes were blamed for the defeat of Joe Herman for Mayor and for the election of Mayor Mulvihill. Ever since there has been hard feeling against us."

### Tells of Church Attack.

The minister said that there were only seven persons in the church when the first attack was made on it Sunday evening. He was there, his wife, the Rev. George W. Burton of Rahway and four others, he said. Burton was preaching. An automobile stopped in front, and a little later a stone was thrown through a window.

"Mr. Burton left the pulpit and went out through a back window," Mr. Reed said. The church pastor went out the front way and was struck over the left eye by a stone, but not badly



hurt. The police took him into an automobile and to his wife, who had escaped, he said.

The undertaker who is preparing Carroll's body for burial declined today to give details as to the funeral services, but it was learned that they will be held to-morrow morning. A large crowd is expected.

It is said that many of the speak-easies have closed up in view of conditions and that Carteret is drier than in months.

At Trenton Gov. A. Harry Moore said today that he had received no complaint and had no plans to intervene in the situation.

## MOB BURNS CHURCH EJECTS ALL NEGROES

100 Families in Carteret, N. J.,  
Are Herded From Homes After  
White Man Is Slain.

## TWO NEGROES ARE BEATEN

Whole Police Force Out to Keep  
Order—Murder Suspect  
Is Under Arrest.

Special to The New York Times.

CARTERET, N. J., April 26.—The First Baptist Church, whose parishioners are all negroes, was burned to the ground early this morning, the pastor, his wife and daughter were forced to flee to Elizabeth for refuge, and more than 100 negro families were driven from town by a mob of white men, some masked and armed with clubs.

The burning of the church followed the fatal stabbing of John Carroll, a local boxer, and the serious wounding of Ralph Johnson, both white, by a number of negroes early yesterday morning. One negro was arrested on a charge of murder and five others are being held as material witnesses.

No personal injury was done to any of the negroes by the white men, but they cautioned against returning to Carteret. Two negroes were attacked later, however. Throughout the day, however, some returned to their homes and some even appeared at the places where they are employed.

All Policemen Are On Duty.

Tonight the town is highly excited. The whole police force of twenty-one

men is on duty and orders have been issued by Mayor Thomas Mulvihill, Chief of Police Henry J. Harrington and County Prosecutor John E. Toolan that the first move toward a repetition of violence must be sternly suppressed.

Small groups gathered on Union Street and Roosevelt Avenue and discussed the day's events. Shortly after 9 o'clock a street car came in from Carteret Junction and two negro passengers stepped out. Instantly fifty white men surrounded the negroes, turned them toward the town limits and gave the order, "Walk, niggers, and keep walking."

The negroes left and the crowd returned to the centre of the city. Not a negro was to be seen on the streets this evening.

The policemen established a deadline between the negro and white sections, and though the former was virtually deserted no whites were allowed to enter.

### Stabbed After a Fight.

Carroll was killed and Johnson was wounded as they were on their way home from the plant of the United States Metal Refining Company, where they were employed. As they passed a group of negroes on the street, one of the latter is said to have made an offensive remark. A fight started and Carroll was stabbed over the heart with a pocket knife. His assailants took to their heels, pursued by Johnson. He was gaining on them when

one turned and stabbed him in the abdomen. He was taken to the Pertin Amboy Hospital, where his condition is serious.

Carroll's body was taken to Burns's Undertaking Parlors to be prepared for burial, and during the day it was viewed by many persons who gathered afterward in the streets and discussed the stabbing. Toward evening the crowd gathered toward the Baptist Church on Lark Street.

The Rev. George H. Reed, negro pastor, was in the pulpit when the mob reached the church. None of the white men carried firearms, but most of them had clubs and cudgels. Stones were thrown through the windows of the frame church and some of the white men went into the street. In a few minutes the congregation was fleeing helter skelter.

### Mob Marches Again to Church.

Early this morning the mob reformed and marched to the church. Some of the marchers wore handkerchiefs covering the lower part of their faces. None were in the regalia of the Ku Klux Klan, and it is said that the Klan as a body had nothing to do with the attack on the negroes.

Piles of hay, newspapers and other combustible materials were stacked up against the wooden walls of the church and the mass was set on fire. In a few seconds the building was burning briskly and the flames were shooting up the steeple. A call for firemen and policemen was sent in and a motor engine and hook and ladder companies,

both volunteers, responded. The firemen soon had four streams playing on the fire and in a short time the blaze was under control. The mob meanwhile stood silently by and did not attempt to interfere with the work of the firemen.

Chief of Police Harrington, who arrived with a dozen policemen, ordered the mob to disperse. No attention was paid to the Chief's command, and he gave the word to the Fire Chief to turn the hose on the crowd.

### Order Negroes From Homes.

The mob then broke but reformed a little later and went to a district known as the "jungle," about a quarter of a mile away, where the bulk of the negro population resides. Banging on doors and shouting through windows, they ordered the occupants of the houses to get out. No time was given for any of the householders to collect their personal effects, but men, women and children were herded together and surrounded by the white men.

"Get out of town and stay out!" the negroes were told as they were escorted to the boundary line between Carteret and Woodbridge. Then they were released and, running and walking, they put as much distance as possible between themselves and the white men. By this time it was daylight and the mob returned to the church and set fire to it again. In a few minutes only the stone foundations and a section of one wall remained standing.

Two negroes were badly beaten by a dozen white men, who attacked them near the Lieb Chemical Works on the outskirts of the town. About the same time a negro who was seen in the vicinity of Carroll's house was chased by a crowd of white men and was rescued by several policemen.

As the crowd was milling about on Roosevelt Avenue, an automobile containing five negroes from some other town, evidently unaware of what had

happened, drove up. The negroes parked their car and got out. Immediately there was a rush for them. The policemen reached the automobile first and ordered the negroes to get in and drive away at once. The negroes lost no time in obeying the order.

This morning when news of the rioting became generally known a committee consisting of the Rev. Charles Mayhew of the First Baptist Church of Arlington, and the Rev. Otto Laegeler, Superintendent of Religious Education of the New Jersey Baptist Conference, met with members of the negro section of the Baptist Conference to discuss what was to be done.

At the same time members of Carteret Fire Company No. 2 met in their quarters on Roosevelt Avenue and started a fund for the relief of Carroll's widow and three children. The firemen subscribed \$1,000.

### Murder Suspect Held.

Following the stabbing of Carroll and Johnson, Robert Duceast, 24 years old, of 27 Hudson Street, and five other negroes were arrested. Duceast was charged with murder. During the day some of the negroes returned quietly to their homes but for the most part they kept under cover.

Prosecutor Toolan said this evening that the local police and detectives from his office were making every effort to learn the identity of members of the mob.

"If they can be found they will have to answer for their actions," Mr. Toolan said, "there is a law and it will be enforced, regardless of race or color. If the negroes return to their homes they will be given all the protection possible."

Mayor Mulvihill said Carteret had a population of 11,500, of which, he estimated, about 150 were—or had been—negroes. Other estimates placed the number of negroes at as high as 300.

Chief of Police Harrington said tonight.

"The industrial plants, and we have about fifteen of them here, employ cheap labor. They import men from other parts of the country to work for cheap wages, these men come in and go out, and we don't get a chance to know who they are or what they are or where they came from. They're what we call 'floaters.' It was a floater that killed Carroll."

## NEGROES DRIVEN FROM HOMES BY WHITE RAIDERS

## Whole Population of N. J. Town Removed

(Special to The Daily Worker)

CARTERET, N. J., April 27.—The entire population of the Negro settlement of Carteret was attacked by a mob of white men, brutally forced from their homes and conducted to the city line. The attackers were armed with baseball bats and heavy clubs. Many of them wore masks identifying them as members of the ku klux klan.

### Burn Church

The white mob first burned the Negro church and then turned upon the helpless Negroes in their homes. More than 100 Negroes, men, women and children were forced out of their homes without their belongings, and driven out of the city with threats of violence if ever they returned.

The raid was the aftermath of a struggle last night between a group of Negroes and whites when six or seven Negro men were insulted and attacked by several of the town "pugs." The Negroes fought back and one of the white men, John Carroll, a local pugilist, was killed in the fighting.

### Mob Gathers.

Early this morning the news went

round and the mob gathered to take vengeance from the whole Negro population who were asleep in their beds when the rioters entered their homes. The police claimed they were unable to control the violent mob.

## Jersey Mob Puts Torch To School

Fairhaven, N. J.—The Fairhaven public school, on the Fisk road, attended solely by colored children, was reduced to a pile of smoking blackened ruins by a mob Tuesday evening, April 27, as the embers of racial hatred still grows red in New Jersey. Fairhaven is another product of the race trouble which started at Carteret, 18 miles away.

The school was attended by forty colored children and was a source of constant complaint from the colored people of Fairhaven, who requested the school board's policy of separating schools for colored and whites. Mayor Charles P. Gross and the Borough Police Commissioner have immediate investigation when Raymond Davidson, chief of the Fair Haven fire department, said that the blaze was incendiary, and that he had found evidence of arson.



Riots-1926

# Police Wink At Outrages On Helpless

**Six Negroes Held On Flimsy Charges While  
Whites Who Burned Negro Church and  
Mauled Worshippers Are Permitted  
To Go Unmolested; Police Chief  
Is Missing**

## EXODUS OF RACE FAMILIES FOLLOW ATTACK AND THREATS OF RIOTERS

**Pastor of Church Declares That Race Will Go  
Back To Carteret When Storm Blows Over;  
School Near Riot City Also Burnt As  
Mob Goes On Rampage**

(Special)

RAHWAY, N. J., April 29.—Before dusk settled over the town of Carteret, N. J., last night, the last forlorn Negro refugee, carrying what property he could on his back, had obeyed the white man's edict to "get out of town."

"The Jungle," ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> battleground of the white mob that has ruled the village since Sunday night, was entirely deserted. About a hundred of the terrified residents had taken refuge inside the protecting walls of the Armour & Co. Fertilizer Works on the outskirts of the town. The rest of the 1,000 residents had fled to neighboring towns—Woodbridge, Elizabeth and Perth Amboy.

Early yesterday morning, soon after the light of dawn had sent the roving white men to their homes, the exodus which began Monday after the burning of the Negro Baptist Church, was resumed.

### Quit Homes of Years As Mob Threatens

Out of the homes they had occupied for years—some of them for lifetimes—came the frightened Negroes—men, women and children. All night they had lain behind locked doors, afraid even to set a light, for outside roamed the mob of 150 white men and the five Negroes who did venture on the streets after dark had been stoned and beaten.

Aaron McKissie, a middle-aged man, worker in the copper works of the

New Jersey

United States Metal Refining Company, who was one of the five beaten and stoned the night before, returned at noon yesterday to his home at No. 71 Larch street. He said he had lain all night in the woods outside of town, chased there by the mob. He came back to rescue his wife and three children and in an hour the family had been hustled aboard a trolley car and were heading for points north.

The twenty-one policemen of the town were still on double duty as darkness set in last night.

### Still Threats of Lynching Despite Exodus

There was no disorder in the early part of the evening, although vague rumors of "bombs" and "lynchings" were still common talk.

McDougall, with his family and the five refugees besieged last night and saved by five policemen who drew their guns and dispersed the mob at the doorstep, had vanished yesterday along with the rest of his race.

The funeral today of Johnny Carroll, the puglist stabbed to death on Sunday, is said by some of the men about town who claim to be "in the know," to be arranged as the signal for the "real demonstration." According to these whispers, the crowd that attends the funeral and burial will return to town armed with firearms and bombs and will proceed to Woodbridge and Perth Amboy and to the camp of the fertilizer works, where the Negroes who fled the town will be "punished."

### No Whites Yet Arrested by Bungling Police

This talk is discounted by Chief of Police Harrington, who discounts also the assaults Monday night and the continued unrest last night. None of the three assaults, which were witnessed by reporters, have been entered on the police records. Nor has the attempted attack on the home of McDougall, also witnessed by reporters, been recorded.

So far no arrests have been made of any of the white men who burned down the church and stoned the congregation. In the three assaults witnessed by reporters and in the attack on McDougall's home, police arrived and rescued the Negroes, but the officers made no attempt to arrest the members of the mob.

The race feeling that has now broken forth has been simmering for several years in the town. Behind it is the fact that when Negroes came to the town to work in the factories the wages of the white men went down from sixty cents an hour to half that wage. The murder of Carroll merely precipitated the outbreak.

It all started when Johnny Carroll, lightweight boxer and idol of the fight fans of Carteret was stabbed and killed early Sunday morning. Ralph Johnson, of Rome, N. Y., who was with Carroll, was seriously knifed. From all accounts Carroll and Johnson, who were walking to Carroll's home, were jostled on the street. They resented and a melee started during which Carroll was stabbed just above the heart.

During the day the news spread and anger grew. Carroll's friends got together. As evening approached they gathered in force on a downtown street. Someone suggested they march on the Negro church. The suggestion was taken up with enthusiasm. Oil soaked rags, bundles of dried brush and piles of old newspapers were collected. It was but the work of a moment to start the flames around the foundation of the frame building. The tiny house of worship was all but destroyed by the time the Carteret fire apparatus arrived.

### No Regular Fire Alarm Was Turned In

There was no regular fire alarm turned in. Somebody just turned in a still alarm, and it was quite a while before the department got there.

The mob members, numbering several hundred, many of them masked nearly all carrying baseball bats and clubs, having scattered the church congregation, were standing around watching the firemen's futile efforts to extinguish the blaze. Mayor Thos. Mulvihill ordered the fire hoses turned on the crowd, as a result of which the mayor was being called hard names today by the white leaders.

The rioters dispersed but not to their homes. Instead, they formed raiding parties and invaded the Jungle.

They hammered on the doors of dwellings, roused the occupants without ceremony and told them to come along. Negroes who resisted or talked back, were promptly clubbed into submission. Three who resisted were later taken to the City Hospital in Perth Amboy with cracked heads. The best information obtainable is that at least twenty others were badly beaten.

"You can probably find some of them out in the fields now, if they're not dead," one of the rioters bragged today. About one hundred Negroes, including women and children, were herded into the middle of the mob and forced to march to the Woodbridge village line and warned to stay out of Carteret.



# Police Wink At Outrages On Helpless

**Six Negroes Held On Flimsy Charges While Whites Who Burned Negro Church and Mauled Worshipers Are Permitted To Go Unmolested; Police Chief Is Missing**

## EXODUS OF RACE FAMILIES FOLLOW ATTACK AND THREATS OF RIOTERS.

**Pastor of Church Declares That Race Will Go Back To Carteret When Storm Blows Over; School Near Riot City Also Burnt As Mob Goes On Rampage**

(Special)  
RAHWAY, N. J., April 29.—Before dusk settled over the town of Carteret, N. J., last night, the last forlorn Negro refugee, carrying what property he could on his back, had obeyed the white man's edict to "get out of town."  
"The Jungle," ~~the refuge of the white mob~~ that has ruled the village since Sunday night, was entirely deserted. About a hundred of the terrified residents had taken refuge inside the protecting walls of the Armour & Co. Fertilizer Works on the outskirts of the town. The rest of the 1,000 residents had fled to neighboring towns—Woodbridge, Elizabeth and Perth Amboy.

Early yesterday morning, soon after the light of dawn had sent the roving white men to their homes, the exodus ~~of the white mob~~ began Monday after the burning of the Negro Baptist Church, was resumed.

### Quit Homes of Years As Mob Threatens

Out of the homes they had occupied for years—some of them for lifetimes—came the frightened Negroes—men, women and children. All night they had lain behind locked doors, afraid even to set a light, for outside roamed the mob of 150 white men and the five Negroes who did venture on the streets after dark had been stoned and beaten.

Aaron McKissie, a middle-aged man, worker in the copper works of the

United States Metal Refining Company, who was one of the five beaten and stoned the night before, returned at noon yesterday to his home at No. 71 Larch street. He said he had lain all night in the woods outside of town, chased there by the mob. He came back to rescue his wife and three children and in an hour the family had been hustled aboard a trolley car and were heading for points north.

The twenty-one policemen of the town were still on double duty as darkness set in last night.

### Still Threats of Lynching Despite Exodus

There was no disorder in the early part of the evening, although vague rumors of "bombs" and "lynchings" were still common talk.

McDougall, with his family and the five refugees besieged last night and saved by five policemen who drew their guns and dispersed the mob at the doorstep, had vanished yesterday along with the rest of his race.

The funeral today of Johnny Carroll, the pugilist stabbed to death on Sunday, is said by some of the men about town who claim to be "in the know," to be arranged as the signal for the "real demonstration." According to these whispers, the crowd that attends the funeral and burial will return to town armed with firearms and bombs and will proceed to Woodbridge and Perth Amboy and to the camp of the fertilizer works, where the Negroes who fled the town will be "punished."

### No Whites Yet Arrested by Bungling Police

This talk is discounted by Chief of Police Harrington, who discounts also the assaults Monday night and the continued unrest last night. None of the three assaults, which were witnessed by reporters, have been entered on the police records. Nor has the attempted attack on the home of McDougall, also witnessed by reporters, been recorded.

So far no arrests have been made of any of the white men who burned down the church and stoned the congregation. In the three assaults witnessed by reporters and in the attack on McDougall's home, police arrived and rescued he Negroes, but the officers made no attempt to arrest the members of the mob.

The race feeling that has now broken forth has been simmering for several years in the town. Behind it is the fact that when Negroes came to the town to work in the factories the wages of the white men went down from sixty cents an hour to half that wage. The murder of Carroll merely precipitated the outbreak.

It all started when Johnny Carroll, lightweight boxer and idol of the fight fans of Carteret was stabbed and killed early Sunday morning. Ralph Johnson, of Rome, N. Y., who was with Carroll, was seriously knifed. From all accounts Carroll and Johnson, who were walking to Carroll's home, were jostled on the street. They resented and a melee started during which Carroll was stabbed just above the heart.

During the day the news spread and anger grew. Carroll's friends got together. As evening approached they gathered in force on a downtown street. Someone suggested they march on the Negro church. The suggestion was taken up with enthusiasm. Oil soaked rags, bundles of dried brush and piles of old newspapers were collected. It was but the work of a moment to start the flames around the foundation of the frame building. The tiny house of worship was all but destroyed by the time the Carteret fire apparatus arrived.

### No Regular Fire Alarm Was Turned In

There was no regular fire alarm turned in. Somebody just turned in a still alarm, and it was quite a while before the department got there.

The mob members, numbering several hundred, many of them masked nearly all carrying baseball bats and clubs, having scattered the church congregation, were standing around watching the firemen's futile efforts to extinguish the blaze. Mayor Thos. Mulvihill ordered the fire hoses turned on the crowd, as a result of which the mayor was being called hard names today by the white leaders.

The rioters dispersed but not to their homes. Instead, they formed raiding parties and invaded the Jungle.

They hammered on the doors of dwellings, roused the occupants without ceremony and told them to come along. Negroes who resisted or talked back, were promptly clubbed into submission. Three who resisted were later taken to the City Hospital in Perth Amboy with cracked heads. The best information obtainable is that at least twenty others were badly beaten.

"You can probably find some of them out in the fields now, if they're not dead," one of the rioters bragged today. About one hundred Negroes, including women and children, were herded into the middle of the mob and forced to march to the Woodbridge village line and warned to stay out of Carteret.



# CARTERET RACE RIOT LAID TO WAGE CLASH

Negro Rally in Harlem Asserts  
Blacks Have Been Asked There  
to Take Jobs of Whites.

## ASKS PROTECTION FOR THEM

Resolution Criticizes New Jersey  
Officials and Asks Fair Trials for  
Negroes Held in Murder.

A demand that protection be given to negroes returning to their homes at Carteret, N. J. from which they were driven by a mob, was sent to the New York Times yesterday by a mass meeting of negroes at 200 West 135th street, under the auspices of the Harlem Educational Forum and the American Negro Labor Congress. Those in charge of the meeting were also urged in a resolution to send an appeal to Washington, asking that all possible steps be taken to prevent a recurrence of similar racial trouble.

Several white men and women were present. One of them, Forest Bailey, a director of the American Civil Liberties Union, censured the two and State officials of New Jersey for failure to protect the negroes from the final attacks by the mob, which resulted in the burning of the Baptist Church there.

"There was a great contrast in the action of public officials of New Jersey in dealing with the mob at Carteret and the textile workers who are on strike at Passaic," said Bailey. "In the former case they gave no protection at all, but they sent guards and sheriffs in force to Passaic to protect factories and employers and to oppress the strikers."

Most of the negro speakers agreed that the trouble at Carteret was not one of racial conflict but of an economic situation, which was brought about by the encouragement given negroes to seek work there which formerly was limited exclusively to white laborers and mechanics. This view of the mob attack was incorporated in a resolution to be sent to the public officials. It read:

"We direct attention to the basic cause of these terrible outrages; the pitting of black and white workers against each other in suicidal competition for jobs by employers, to reduce wages, and we declare that the only remedy for this situation is to be found in organizing of black and white workers upon a basis of equality and the formation of intersocial labor councils."

The resolution asked the officials to mob cast stones, baseball bats and investigate the failure to protect the

negroes at Carteret, to apprehend the offenders and mob leaders, and to see that the negroes charged with complicity in the murder of John Carroll, and the wounding of a companion, white factory workers, which precipitated the mob attack, be accorded impartial trials.

On the motion of Dr. Hubert W. Harrison, a negro member of the lecture staff of the Board of Education, a committee of five was appointed by the chairman, Richard B. Moore, to report on the advisability of establishing a negro protective organization, to be known as the National Negro Defense Committee.

# CONGREGATION ROUTED; MOB FIRES CHURCH

Labor Troubles In New  
Jersey Culminate In Race  
Riot

## FOREIGNERS FEARED RACE STRIKEBREAKERS

Every Colored Home Visited.  
Residents Told To  
Leave At Once

CARTERET, N. J.—Scores of peaceful persons were beaten, the Baptist Church burned and hundreds temporarily driven out of town in a race riot here this week. 5-1-26

Casualties among the whites include one killed, one badly injured and many hurt. Labor troubles are at the bottom of the riot.

Riot began Sunday morning early when John Carroll, white pugilist and Ralph Johnson, accompanied by Mrs. Carron on their way home became involved in a fight between a white and colored man on the street. Carroll was killed instantly, a knife going into his heart, and Johnson was stabbed twice.

Albert Ducealt who has but one eye, together with six companions were immediately placed under arrest.

News spread fast. By night colored people were assembled in First Baptist Church. The Rev. R. Reed was preaching. Members of the mob cast stones, baseball bats and a few firearms. They

threw several shots and threw stones into the windows. As the congregation fled, paper, wood and gasoline were collected and the church set on fire.

Members of the crowd told laughingly how they made innocent men and women run the gauntlet as they fled from the house of worship. One eight year old youngster was struck on the head with a baseball bat by members of the mob, who tied handkerchiefs over their faces.

The firemen soon put out the blaze and turned the water on the mob, which gave way for a while and returned again, setting the church on fire a second time. This time it was destroyed.

Members of the mob then went from door to door in the colored section waking up the people and telling them to get their clothes on and to go. Men and women were only allowed time to get their clothes on and to go. Women carried babies and men carried valises and satchels.

Three hundred were rounded up on the outskirts of the town and it was Monday morning before they got courage to go back home.

Twenty-one special police were thrown around the colored section. Every colored man who came out of his house was searched for firearms. Police searched no white persons, however, many of whom stood around with sticks and talked about burning and bombing and buying firearms.

**Hungarians**  
Population of this town consists chiefly of Hungarians who work in local fertilizer mills. There are about 12,000 white and 500 colored. Some of the colored workers are newly arrived from the South. They were brought here to work in the mills and factories and for this reason have aroused the hatred of the white foreigners who were heard to threaten hanging of the whites who were responsible for bringing colored people into the town.

While the crowd responsible for Carroll's death may not have had the best reputation, members of the church were peaceful and law abiding and not responsible in any way for the murder.

**Burned School**  
Fairhaven public school near Red Bank, N. J., was burned to the ground by members of a white mob Tuesday night. The school was attended by colored children only.

The Rev. George H. Reed, pastor of the First Baptist Church, which was burned, said today he was going to rebuild his church and bring all his church members back to Carteret with him. He is now staying at the home of his father-in-law, J. C. Copeland, 331 W. Grand street, Elizabeth, N. J.

The colored section of Carteret is known as the Jungle. A number of colored people who have lived there for their whole life time and were quiet and orderly, were forced to get out.

In cases where whites attacked colored homes policemen stopped the assaults but made no efforts to arrest the whites.

# Carteret, N. J., Whites Burn \$3,000 Church of Colored Congregation, And Assault and Banish Colored Residents

Because Johnny Carroll, a white pugilist was stabbed to death in an altercation with a colored man, 700 whites, men and boys, in Carteret, N. J., raided the section inhabited by Negroes and set fire to the First Baptist Church, burning it to the ground, and then routed colored families from their homes, driving them out of town, and beating and assaulting individual Negroes wherever they were found.

Carroll was killed about 1:30 o'clock Sunday morning, and another white man who was with him, Ralph Johnson, was slashed in the abdomen and is in the Perth Amboy Hospital, said to be in a serious condition.

Robert Ducaest, three weeks in Carteret, was arrested charged with the killing, and both Carroll and Johnson and George Caloway, all being held as witnesses. The three are in the New Brunswick jail.

When the Rev. George H. Reed, pastor, started his service in the First Baptist Church Sunday night, the mob of whites assembled on the outside and began hostilities by sending stones and sticks crashing through the window, barely missing the minister. Pastor Reed tried to reason with the white mobsters, in a vain hope that they might be pacified, but they disregarded his pleas and turned their attack on him personally. The preacher then dismissed his congregation, and as the folks were leaving the church they were attacked by whites armed with baseball bats, clubs and other weapons, and a number of them were hurt.

## Set Fire To Church.

The \$3,000 church building was fired about 2 o'clock Monday morning, and when the firemen reached the scene they found the mob gathered around the hydrants thus preventing the firemen from making the hose connections. This was kept up until the fire had made much headway it could not be stopped. But when the firemen finally started to play water on the fire, the mob again attacked until the hose was turned on them. The police force of 21 men was powerless, it is claimed.

James McDougald, Republican leader among the colored voters, and said to the right hand man of Mayor Thomas J. Mulvihill, runs a drug store, a barber shop and a boarding house, at

Merger street and Salem Avenue. About 11:30 Monday night a mob attacked his house but were repulsed by police.

Patrolman John Harrigan, on duty a block away, came running up, revolver in hand, and blowing his whistle. He mounted the steps of McDougald's place and ordered the crowd to climb in its automobiles. He was reinforced by four other policemen, who were on nearby beats. The crowd desisted and then obeyed.

The crowd went to a camp maintained near the Armour fertilizing plant in Carteret for its 150 Negro laborers. The white mob stood under freight cars lying on a nearby siding until midnight, when a shift of laborers was scheduled to quit. No one came from the camp. Finally one man asked the watchman of the camp where the Negroes were. He replied that all employed would remain in the camp that night.



Riots - 1926

# LAST OF NEGROES OUT OF CARTERET

NEW YORK TIMES, APRIL 23, 1926

Many Are Driven From Jersey  
Homes They Own, Some Life-  
long Residents of Town

## STILL LYNCHING THREATS

Police Patrol Streets and Plants  
Guard Workers

Before dusk settled over the town of Carteret, N. J., last night, the last forlorn Negro refugee, carrying what property he could on his back, had obeyed the white man's edict to "get out of town."

"The Jungle," battleground of the white mob that has ruled the village since Sunday night, was entirely deserted. About a hundred of the terrified residents had taken refuge inside the protecting walls of the Armour & Co. Fertilizer Works on the outskirts of the town. The rest of the 1,000 residents had fled to neighboring towns—Woodbridge, Elizabeth and Perth Amboy.

Early yesterday morning, soon after the light of dawn had sent the roving white men to their homes, the violence which began Monday after the burning of the Negro Baptist Church, was resumed.

### Quit Homes of Years

Out of the homes they had occupied for years—some of them for lifetimes—came the frightened Negroes—men, women and children. All night they had lain behind locked doors, afraid even to set a light, for outside roamed the mob of 150 white men and the five Negroes who did venture on the street, after dark had been stoned and beaten.

Aron McKissie, a middle-aged Negro worker in the copper works of the United States Metal Refining Company, who was one of the five beaten and stoned the night before, returned at noon yesterday to his home at No. 51 Larch Street. He said he had lain all night in the woods outside of town, chased there by the mob. He came back to rescue his wife and

children and in an hour the family had been hustled aboard a trolley car and were heading for points north.

The twenty-one policemen of the town were still on double duty as darkness set in last night.

### Still Threats of Lynching

There was no disorder in the early part of the evening, although vague rumors of "bonfires" and "lynchings" were still common talk.

McDougall, with his family and the five refugees besieged last night and saved by five policemen who drew their guns and dispersed the mob at the doorstep, had vanished yesterday along with the rest of his race.

The funeral to-day of Johnny Carroll, the pugilist stabbed to death by Negroes on Sunday, is said by some of the men about town who claim to be "in the know" to be arranged as the signal for the "real demonstration." According to these whispers, the crowd that attends the funeral and burial will return to town armed with firearms and bombs and will proceed to Woodbridge and Perth Amboy and to the camp of the fertilizer works, where the Negroes who led the town will be "punished."

### No Whites Yet Arrested

This talk is discounted by Chief of Police Harrington, who discounts also the assaults Monday night and the continued unrest last night. None of the three assaults, which were witnessed by reporters, have been entered on the police records. Nor has the attempted attack on the home of McDougall, also witnessed by reporters, been recorded.

So far no arrests have been made of any of the white men who burned down the church and stoned the congregation. In the three assaults witnessed by reporters and in the attack on McDougall's home, police arrived and rescued the Negroes, but the officers made no attempt to arrest the members of the mob.

The race feeling that has now broken forth has been simmering for several years in the town. Behind it is the fact that when Negroes came to the town to work in the factories the wages of the white men went down from sixty cents an hour to half that wage. The murder of Carroll merely precipitated the outbreak.

### Appeal to Gov. Moore Sent by Civil Liberties Union

Gov. Moore of New Jersey was asked in a telegram from Harry F. Ward, Chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union, yesterday following the race riots at Carteret, N. J., to adopt "a vigorous policy of redress to establish order and police efficiency" in the town.

The telegram declared that "while a white mob terrorized the Negro pop-

ulation in Carteret, the police remained ineffective and apparently uninterested until a church had been burned down, homes had been besieged and Negroes compelled to flee."

### Negro School Burned a Few Miles From Carteret

The one-story frame building of the Fairhaven Public School, occupied exclusively by Negro pupils, was destroyed by fire believed to have been of incendiary origin early yesterday morning. The schoolhouse is on Flisk Road, about eighteen miles from Carteret.

Officials of the town immediately began an investigation which they are sure will lead to an arrest. It was generally believed, however, the fire had no connection with the racial feeling in Carteret. It was recalled, also, that Negro residents of Fairhaven had recently demanded a new school building to replace the frame structure.

The Rev. and Mrs. George H. Reed, central figures in the attack on the First Baptist Church of Carteret, N. J., late Sunday night, yesterday found a refuge in the home of Mrs. Reed's mother at No. 331 West Grand Street, Elizabeth.

"There were only seven of us in the church when the mob started throwing stones at us through the windows," Mrs. Reed told a reporter for The World. "My husband, who was seated in the pulpit in back of the Rev. G. W. Burton of the Northern Baptist University of Rahway, who was speaking, immediately jumped up and shouted, 'Run for your life. Run for dear life.'"

"One of the windows, which was eleven feet above the ground, was open, and I jumped through it to the ground, where I fell, under a hail of stones. There was also some firing from revolvers."

### Finds Refuge in Pit

"I ran across the field in back of the church, and the first thing I knew I had fallen into a hole, where I stayed until things had quieted down a bit. Then I peeped over the rim of the hole and saw I had been forgotten by the mob. I crept to the roadway and hailed a passing automobile."

"The driver of the car, who was a white man, did not want to take me in, fearing he would be attacked by the mob, but another white man came along and said he was a 'friend of the gang,' and that it would be all right for the chauffeur to take me in the car."

"I crouched down in the back of the car and we drove past the mob, who were beginning to fire the church. I

went to the home of a friend, who was also afraid to take me in, but she finally let me take refuge in her house. In the meantime, my husband was frantically searching for me, but I was unable to leave the house to telephone him. My friend told me there was a white man who lived in the apartment over her, and after much persuasion he went out and telephoned the police who told my husband I was safe."

### Reed Founded Church

Mr. Reed, who is only twenty-eight and a student at the Northern Baptist University, founded the Carteret Church seven years ago. Yesterday he appeared shaken by his experiences, and his slight figure trembled as automobiles drove by the house.

"The whole thing is a shame," he said. "We had nothing to do with the Negro who is said to have killed a white man, and I don't know why they burned my church. I asked the mob if they would desecrate a house of God, and they said 'To hell with your church,' and began throwing bricks and firing revolvers."

"I have been advised not to return to my Carteret home at No. 56 Union Street until the anti-Negro feeling has died down, but I hope to return the latter part of this week, if I can. The rest of the Negroes who left town also will return."

"I am sure the white people of the town will realize that the members of the church are a peaceful group and had nothing to do with the killing of John Carroll. Just because one Negro killed a white man is no reason for an attack on the whole race."

COPIED BY THE  
APRIL 27, 1926

### RACE WAR AT CARTERET

The race war—if that which shows only one side fighting can be called "war"—which has broken out in Carteret, New Jersey, cannot be described as the worst north of Mason and Dixon's Line in recent times, but it is assuredly the worst anywhere in the vicinity of New York since the draft riots of July, 1863.

Mobs of whites beating up negroes everywhere, a hundred colored families driven from their homes and from the town, the Negro First Baptist Church deliberately set on fire and burned to the ground, while firemen, instead of trying to put out the blaze, turned the hose on peaceful negro onlookers, the pastor ejected from the pulpit and fleeing for his life to Elizabeth, are incidents rather

curious in a State of law-abiding people. They call for what used to be known as "Jersey justice." Simply that and nothing more or less. We note that all the arrests are of negroes. All the mob outrages were by whites. The killing of Johnny Carroll, a pugilist, said to have been done by a negro, is yet to be investigated.

We hardly care to say that mar-

tial law is needed in Passaic or Garfield. That it is needed in Carteret seems clear to the meanest intelligence, which is not the intelligence of Governor Harry A. Moore of New Jersey. Simply from the viewpoint of practical politics quick and drastic action is wise. The negroes of the State have a marginal vote that will count for a great deal in case of a close November election. And decent white sentiment will approve all the rigor that can be applied. If the mobsters are not punished, the responsibility lies with the Governor of the State and the party which sponsors him. That fact cannot be misunderstood by anybody in New Jersey.

# TOWN MOB DRIVES OUT ALL NEGROES AFTER SLAYING

## Burns Church Before Its March on Homes.

New York, April 26.—[Special.]—A mob of men from Carteret, N. J., and nearby towns, incensed by the slaying of John Carroll and the wounding of Ralph Johnson, both white men, in a fight with Negroes yesterday, burned a Negro church today and drove 100 Negro men, women and children from their homes.

The mob escorted the Negroes to the village limits, where they released them with orders that they should not return to Carteret.

### Carry Baseball Bats.

Some members of the mob were



masked with white or colored handkerchiefs and many carried baseball bats or heavy clubs. The entire population of the Negro settlement was removed. Policemen and firemen were ineffective in controlling the crowd.

Ill feeling between whites and Negroes has been developing gradually as a result of the employment of an increasing number of Negroes in local industries.

#### Same Negro Stabs Two.

Carroll and Johnson, both popular men, received their injuries in an altercation with half a dozen Negroes yesterday morning. One of the Negroes stabbed Carroll, killing him. The same Negro stabbed Johnson in the abdomen.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAPH

APRIL 27, 1926

## TENTS SHELTER NEGRO EXILES

### Carteret, N. J., Quiet After Race Outbreak, but Police Guard Against New Riots.

Over in Carteret, N. J., they have had enough of race riots. Even the speaker, easily, notoriously open and plentiful have closed down for fear that fresh trouble may be brewed over the bottle.

Johnny Carroll, stabbed to death by a negro, will be buried tomorrow morning, but the place ad hour have been kept secret for fear that another mob will gather.

One hundred and fifty negroes driven out of their homes in the "Jungle," as their quarter is known, are living in strings of tents pitched within the fences of the two fertilizer plants where they are employed, it was reported. Today is pay day at the factories of Armour & Co. and the Liebig Fertilizer Company, where much of the feeling against the negroes is said to have arisen over labor disputes. Armed guards were on duty around the plants.

#### No Complaint to Moore.

Governor Moore said he did not plan any inquiry, as he had received no complaint. Nor had any complaint been received by the State police.

Some time in the night the ruins of the First Baptist Church, the negroes' place of worship, were levelled after being set afire twice the night before. Some of the town boys were reported looking for money hidden in the corner stone.

A mob needs to be handled with discretion, in the opinion of John J. Toolan, Middlesex County Prosecutor, who was asked whether he planned to investigate the conduct of Carteret policemen who permitted the mob to stone the negro congregation and later burn their church.

"No, sir," he said. "There was a mob of a thousand at that church, and when you've got only twenty-five policemen it's much more important to pro-

tect life than property. Those officers know their people. To my mind they did their duty and handled the situation well."

#### Pastor to Return.

The Rev. George H. Reed, pastor of the burned church, was found in Elizabeth today, and he promptly announced that he would return and rebuild his church. He did not set the date of his return.

"Carteret is a lawless town," he said. "Liquor is freely made and sold, and any one passing through Carteret could smell it."

"This outbreak is not the result of the murder," he added. "The people of Carteret are only hiding behind that." Carteret's politics is responsible, he said. What with beatings and arrests of the negroes at each election, he said, the trouble was due ever since his people were blamed for the defeat of the Mayor at the last election.

While sentiment was still very warm in Carteret today, Toolan said the evidence was complete against Robert Du-east, negro, held in the jail at New Brunswick, charged with killing Carroll. The evidence goes before the Grand Jury Friday. There was even some loose talk in Carteret of storming the County Jail, but nothing happened.

#### Stabbed Man Improving.

Ralph Johnson, a companion of Carroll, who was also stabbed, is expected to recover, it was said at the Perth Amboy City Hospital.

Meanwhile three newspaper photographers were held by Carteret police for an hour today, charged with trying to stage a fake riot with white boys for the sake of getting pictures. Mayor Mulvihill released them.

The Fair Haven, N. J., negro school was burned to the ground by fire of mysterious origin early today, but there was nothing to connect it with the Carteret riot.

NEW YORK CITY TELEGRAPH

APRIL 23, 1926

## POLICE GUARD TOWN TO END RACE CLASHES

### New Outbreak at Funeral of Slain Pugilist Is Feared by Authorities of Carteret

Carteret, N. J., was comparatively calm yesterday after night-long demonstrations which threatened to break out into a fierce race war between whites and blacks.

It was a calm inspired by the presence of uniformed policemen on the streets and armed guards at the gates of the manufacturing

plants on the outskirts of the town. All authorities were taking precautions against possible recurrence of attempts by mobs of white men to rid the town of negroes.

#### ONLY WHITES IN STREETS.

Resentment against Negroes, which flamed after the killing of Johnny Carroll, pugilist, Sunday night, was still in evidence. Only white faces were seen on the streets. Negroes who did not leave in Monday's general exodus either stayed behind securely locked and barred doors or else camped behind walls of the factory sites where they are employed.

In the Steinway tract, a barren strip of land outside the town, a few charred sticks and blackened stones gave mute evidence of another attack on the negro First Baptist Church. The edifice was burned early Monday morning. Yesterday morning gangs completed the destruction by tearing down the burned framework.

#### OUTBREAK FEARED.

Extra precautions are being taken to prevent another outbreak this morning when Carroll is buried. The services will be held at 10 o'clock in St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Woodbridge.

In Red Bank, fire believed to have been of incendiary origin, yesterday destroyed the Fair Haven public school, which is attended solely by negro pupils.

The building, a one-story frame structure, took fire early in the morning and was doomed by the time the firemen got their hose into play. An investigation was ordered by Mayor Charles P. Gross. Destruction of the school recalled the local board of education's refusal a year ago to devote to its improvement part of the money raised to build the new Norwood School, whose attendance is exclusively white.

## WANTS RACE RIOTS PROBED TO FINISH

NEW YORK, N. Y., May 10.—(By A. N. P.)—Demand for an investigation and "a vigorous policy or redress to establish order and police efficiency" has been made by Dr. Harry F. Ward, chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union, in a telegram to Governor A. Harry Moore of New Jersey, following the attack of a mob of one hundred fifty men upon the Negro quarter of Carteret, N. J.

A Baptist church was burned down, several homes besieged, and all Negroes were ordered out of Carteret in reprisal for the death of a white pugilist alleged to have been murdered by a Negro. Police stationed on

Corners with drawn revolvers rescued three fleeing Negroes from assaults, but did not interfere with wholesale evictions. The riot was laid to a wage clash between black and white workers of the Armour Company Fertilizer Works on the outskirts of the town.

## SAY LABOR, POLITICS, ARE CAUSES OF RIOT IN CARTERET, NEW JERSEY

CARTERET, N. J.—The real cause of the race riots here last week were labor and political troubles.

The murder of John Carroll, white prizefighter, was only the match that set off the smoldering hate which has been widespread since several weeks ago when Armour & Co. and Liebig Fertilizer Company discharged several white workers and hired race workers instead. Race workers have been imported here in large numbers recently, so much so that housing conditions were inadequate and they were housed in shanties and box cars along railroad tracks.

## Demands Race Riot Investigation

(Associated Negro Press)

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Demand for an investigation and "a vigorous policy of redress to establish order and police efficiency" has been made by Dr. Harry F. Ward, chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union, in a telegram to Governor A. Harry Moore of New Jersey, following the attack of a mob of one hundred and fifty men upon the Negro quarter of Carteret, N. J.

A Baptist church was burned down, several homes besieged, and all Negroes were ordered out of Carteret in reprisal for the death of a white pugilist alleged to have been murdered by a Negro. Police stationed on corners with drawn revolvers rescued three fleeing Negroes from assaults, but did not interfere with wholesale evictions. The riot was laid to a wage clash between black and white workers of the Armour Company Fertilizer works on the outskirts of the town.

## Reveal Cause Of Carteret Race Riots

CARTERET, N. J., May 16.—The real cause of the race riots here last week were labor and political troubles.

The murder of John Carroll, white prizefighter, was only the match that set off the smoldering hate which has been widespread since several weeks ago, when Armour & Co. and Liebig Fertilizer Company discharged several white workers and hired race workers instead. Race workers have been imported here in large numbers recently, so much so that housing conditions were inadequate and they were housed in shanties and box cars along railroad tracks.

The mob which burned down the Baptist Church, of which the Rev. George R. Reed was pastor, had method in its madness. The leaders of the mob knew the church was the only property owned by race people in the town, hence was the only property they felt safe to burn. Although race people were routed out of their homes generally, none of the homes were burned, because they were merely rented, and were owned by white realty interests.

Another reason for the disturbance is political. Of the 1,500 race inhabitants of the town, about 500 are Republican voters, just enough to hold the balance of power. Whites have for some time felt resentful of this political power, ever since Negroes swung the city election to the Republicans last year.

Riots—1926

## RACE CLASHES STR BROOKLYN STREETS

Reserves With Clubs Put Down  
Two Fights Between Negroes  
and Whites.

### RAZORS BROUGHT INTO PLAY

Two White Men Are Hurt and Four  
Negroes Are Arrested—Women  
Join In Melee.

Prospect Place, Brooklyn, between Howard and Saratoga Avenues, was the scene yesterday of two outbreaks between white and negro residents which approached the proportions of riots and were quelled by police reserves who wielded clubs.

Stones were hurled from roofs, razors flashed, and fists were used. Men, women and children participated. Two white men were injured and one was sent to a hospital. Four negroes were arrested.

The trouble was said to have been brewing for some time. The white residents of the block, it was said, objected to the presence of the negro residents and the negroes were said to have taken offense at the resentment of the whites. Minor fights occurred frequently.

The first disturbance of the day started, according to the police, when Cecil and Milton Welsh, negroes of 1,748 Prospect Place, attacked Henry Greenburg of 1,755 Prospect Place, as he was making a purchase in a store on the block about 10:30 A. M. The negroes were alleged to have set on Greenburg with sticks.

The fight soon brought reinforcements to both sides and the street filled with bellicose men, women and children who poured out of the houses to join in the affray. The screams of the women were heard by Patrolman Conrad Pope. Informing the Brownsville police station, he hurried to the battleground and used his club.

Alone he was unable to do much to halt the disturbance but when reserves under Sergeant King arrived with more clubs the combatants scattered and the street became quiet. The Welsh brothers were locked up charged with felonious assault and Greenburg was treated for cuts and bruises by an ambulance doctor.

Shortly before noon a more serious outbreak started. The act that prompted it was the slashing of Charles Blahlsky's coat by a negro with a razor. Blahlsky, who lived

at 1,646 Park Place, a short distance away, was walking along Prospect Place, according to the police, when James Cumberbatch, a negro of 1,744 Prospect Place, got into an argument with him, drew a razor and attacked him. Blahlsky received a severe gash in the abdomen.

Blahlsky's brother, according to the police, came to his rescue and was also slightly cut by a razor wielded by another negro. Once again the crowds poured from the houses and in greater numbers this time. Some persons climbed to the roofs to hurl down stones and sticks. White and negro women tore at each others' hair. The men grappled with each other and the children did what they could.

These police reserves had a harder time quelling the disorder this time but they finally succeeded after a good deal of club wielding. After they had restored order and extra men had been stationed to maintain it, they took Cumberbatch and Edwin Ford, another negro of 1,738 Prospect Place, who was alleged to have been found running from the fight with a razor in his hand, to the station house and charged them also with felonious assault.

Blahlsky was taken to St. Mary's Hospital.

## BROOKLYN RIOTING CHARGED TO ALIEN WHITES PREJUDICE

Upper Prospect Place Scene  
Of Two Set Battles Last  
Sunday—Police Called

White residents on the block of Prospect Place, Brooklyn, between Saratoga and Howard avenues, many of whom are Russian Jews, and practically all of alien origin, have not liked the coming into homes on that block of a number of negroes during the past few months. This dislike came to a head on Sunday last when a white storekeeper was charged by a colored woman customer with trying to shortchange her out of 45 cents.

As a result of the quarrel which ensued, one white man is in the hospital and a score of others are nursing black eyes and bruises. Four Negroes are under arrest, charged with felonious assault.

### White Man In Hospital

Charles Blahlsky of 1646 Park place is in St. Mary's Hospital with an abdominal slash that may be fatal. His brother was also cut, but not seriously. Henry Greenburg of 1755 Pros-

pect place, who was in the store when the quarrel started, and who is charged with having attempted to eject the colored woman, was badly beaten with a club.

Policeman Pope, on duty in the neighborhood, sent in a call for reserves to control the situation when men, women and children, of both races, thronged in front of houses and engaged in a general battle. Men were using fists, women were pulling hair, and the children were doing anything they could.

### Police Called Out Twice

Police Sergeant Joseph Gallagher and Patrolman Michael King led a detail of policemen from the Liberty avenue station, and soon restored order. Shortly after the officers left, however, the fighting started the second time and they had to double-quick right back. This time the battle was not confined to the street, but men and women went to house-tops and hurled bricks, stones or whatever they could get hold of, into the milling masses below.

Other casualties with the whites were Samuel Glassman, 1755 Prospect place; George Schneiderman and Samuel Katz, both of 1750; Samuel Bloom of 1748, and Louis Muroff of 1781.

The Negroes arrested were James Cumberbatch of 1744 Prospect; Cecil and Milton Welsh, brothers, of 1748, and Edwin Ford of 1738.

## RIOTING IN NEW YORK CEASES

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—Following two weeks of open ill-feeling and several fights between Porto Ricans and other Spanish-speaking peoples, who have recently entered the city in large numbers, and the old residents of the district, the Porto Ricans and their friends at a mass meeting at Harlem Casino, Lenox avenue and One Hundred and Sixteenth street, organized yesterday afternoon the Porto Rican and Spanish-American League, for the purpose, it was said, of obtaining civic defense and promoting the general

New York.

welfare of United States citizens of Porto Rican and Spanish birth.

At the meeting, which was called by the Porto Rican Brotherhood of America, the Caribe Democratic Club, Alianza Obrera Puertorriquena, the Merchants Committee and the Liberty Republican Club, all of which are local Spanish-Porto Rican organizations, it was said that the league was being formed, not with any intention of promoting antagonism, but in the belief that a Spanish community centre was essential in a neighborhood which contains thousands of Spanish-speaking people.

The matter of completing the organization of the league and preparing a constitution and by-laws was placed in the hands of a temporary executive committee, consisting of the following:



Riots-1926

Ohio.

## RACE RIOT IN OHIO.

Five Badly Slashed in Drunken Fight.

MIDDLETOWN, O., Sept. 12.—(AP) Middletown was the scene to-  
day following a fight between negroes and  
whites last night in which four white  
men and one negro were badly slash-  
ed.

One negro has been arrested, charged  
with assault with intent to kill.  
The injured men are in hospitals.

The clash occurred at the negroes  
and whites were leaving dance halls  
in the same neighborhood and the  
participants, police said, were under  
the influence of liquor.

Ernest and Earl Stamper, brothers,  
Cecil Mullens and Edgar Walburn, all  
white and George Kinner, negro, were  
those injured.